

PATENT, TRADEMARK, COPYRIGHT,
UNFAIR COMPETITION, TRADE-SECRET,
COMPUTER & HIGH-TECHNOLOGY LAW

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February 28, 2000

TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

MAR 14 2000

RECEIVED

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington DC 20231

RE: U. S. utility-patent application 08/959,575
filed October 28, 1997
of Rolf Carlson, Ph.D.
for: "SYSTEM FOR SUPPLYING SCREENED RANDOM
NUMBERS FOR USE IN RECREATIONAL GAMING IN A
CASINO OR OVER THE INTERNET"
our docket xRCa-03

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in this case please find:

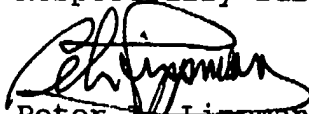
- response of 7 typed pages,
- one-month time-extension petition,
- our check for \$110, to be applied as indicated below, and
- acknowledgement card for date-stamping and return.

\$ 110 1-month time-extension petition

In event any further fee, other than an issue fee, should become due, or any refund accrue, at any time during the prosecution of this application, you are hereby authorized to proceed, without specific authorization, to charge such fee or credit such refund to our deposit account 12-1639. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this correspondence is being deposited as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington DC 20231, on or before FEBRUARY 28, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

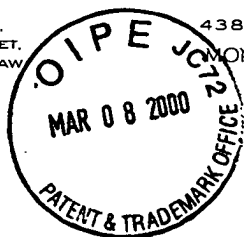


Peter L. Lippman
Reg. No. 22,835

GP 2767#

LAW OFFICES OF
ASHEN & LIPPMAN

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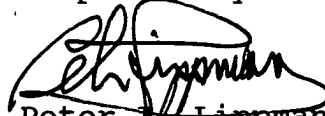
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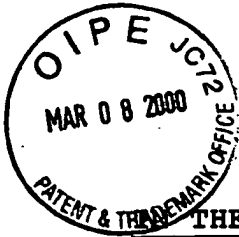
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Respectfully submitted,


Peter L. Lippman
Reg. No. 22,835



9/10
KW
PATENT 315-00

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Rolf Carlson, Ph. D.

Serial No.: 08/959,575

Filed: October 28, 1997

Title: "SYSTEM FOR SUPPLYING SCREENED
RANDOM NUMBERS FOR USE IN
RECREATIONAL GAMING IN A CA-
SINO OR OVER THE INTERNET"
(twice amended)

Our docket: xRCa-03

Group
Art
Unit:

2767

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Examiner
Douglas Meislahn

AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Official
Action dated October 27, please
amend this application as follows.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited as
first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D. C. 20231, on

February 28, 2000.
Peter I. Lippman
Peter I. Lippman / Registration 22,835

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel without prejudice claims 19 through 22, and
claims 29 through 43.

Do Not
Enter
DM

Please revise claims 17 and 18 to read as indicated

below.

1 ¹ 17. (thrice amended) A system for concurrently operating
2 multiple games of chance for personal recreation in a casino
3 or over the Internet; said system [random number generator]
4 comprising:
5 a controller;
6 at least one random number circuit connected to said
7 controller, said at least one random number circuit generat-
8 ing a series of ^{substantially} numerical pseudo-random numbers, each of size
9 that is substantially not limited to any specific number of
10 digits or places, and providing said series of pseudo-random
11 numbers to said controller; [,]
12 said series of pseudo-random numbers comprising a mul-
13 tiplicity [plurality] of sequential sets of raw numerical
14 values that are ~~substantially~~ long-term random or pseudo-
15 random but that are subject to inclusion of short-term runs
16 or trends in said numbers;
17 wherein each of said multiplicity of sets [plurality] of
18 pseudo-random numbers in turn is [are] stored by said con-
19 troller; [,] and
20 a verifier connected to said controller, said verifier
21 receiving in turn each of said multiplicity of said stored

22 sets of raw pseudo-random numbers from said controller, said
23 verifier determining whether [verifying that] each of said
24 multiplicity [plurality] of sets of raw pseudo-random numbers
25 in turn:

26
27 is statistically random or pseudo-random, or

28
29 instead includes short-term runs or trends;

30
31 said verifier thereupon routing said sets of raw pseudo-
32 random numbers based on said determining, as follows:

33
34 discarding each of said sets that includes short-term
35 runs or trends, and

36
37 supplying substantially each of said sets that is veri-
38 fied as [a series of] statistically random or [ver-
39 ified] pseudo-random, for use in driving said con-
40 currently operating multiple games of chance for
41 personal recreation in a casino or over the Inter-
42 net; and [numbers,]

43
44 said sets [series] of statistically verified pseudo-
45 random numbers being provided substantially continuously.

1 2/ 18. (twice amended) The system [random number generator] of
2 claim 1/ further comprising:

3 a buffer having an output for directing verified pseudo-
4 random numbers to usages in said concurrently operating
5 multiple games of chance; [,]

6 said buffer receiving said series of statistically
7 verified pseudo-random numbers; [,] and

8 said buffer providing said received series of statisti-
9 cally verified pseudo-random numbers to said output for use
10 in said concurrently operating multiple games of chance for
11 personal recreation in a casino or over the Internet.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please again revise the title of the application to read
thus: —SYSTEM FOR SUPPLYING SCREENED RANDOM NUMBERS FOR USE
IN RECREATIONAL GAMING IN A CASINO OR OVER THE INTERNET—.

REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Meislahn for the courtesy of two telephone interviews to explore issues in this case, which is new to the undersigned. The Examiner's patience and cordiality is very greatly appreciated.

The claims have been amended to more emphatically focus this application on the art which was originally intended, namely recreational gaming. Based upon conversation with the Examiner, it appears that this application is neither fish nor fowl: because it contains random-number technology, it was not deemed appropriate subject matter for art units that deal with gaming; and because it deals with gaming it is unfamiliar in the cryptographic arts.

The undersigned respectfully submits that this characteristic of being a "curiosity" in either art ought not result in the application being judged as a matter of pure random-number-generation technology. That would be unfair, because application of sophisticated mathematics to the gaming arts is in itself in rather novel; thus at the outset the combination of advanced RNG techniques with gaming environments confers an element of unusualness upon the invention.

The Applicant respectfully submits that this combination, considered further with specific features absent from

the cited references, renders the invention patentable. In particular please note that the base claim now expressly recites that (1) the claimed system is numerical, not alphabetic, and (2) the random numbers which it supplies are not limited to any particular number of digits (or, equivalently, decimal places). Each one of these characteristics, even considered alone, is believed sufficient to distinguish Vasseur as relied upon.

In addition the claim now specifies that the invention is operating multiple games concurrently, and also that it screens sets of random numbers to be certain that they are not only long-term good for recreationally fair and statistically valid gaming over the long haul, but also that they are short-term good random numbers so as to eliminate even an inaccurate appearance of statistical invalidity. Thus the invention as now recited explicitly discards sets of numbers that fail to measure up to these expectations.

The undersigned is not familiar with cryptography, and it may be that in the crypto art such screening and discarding is known — for purposes, perhaps, of minimizing the vulnerability of encrypted data. Such screening and discarding, however, is believed to be very remote from what a skilled person in the gaming field knows or may imagine heretofore. In this field the person of ordinary skill is not a mathema-

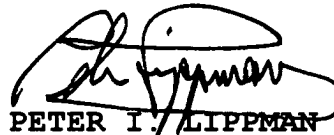
tician or scientist — as may be the case in cryptography — but rather a slot-machine engineer, or a governmental regulatory panel member, or even simply a mechanic. To such artisans this invention is believed to be extremely unobvious.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's favorable reconsideration and allowance of all the claims now standing in this case.

It is respectfully requested that, should there appear any further obstacle to allowance of the claims herein, the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney to try to resolve the obstacle.

Respectfully submitted,



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February 28, 2000

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